

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 06205 220741Z
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USNATO

DIA WASH DC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

COMUSFORAZ LAJES FLD AZ

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE BEL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJ: COMMUNISTS LINK CIA TO SEPARATIST CONSPIRACY

REF: LISBON A-64 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY:

COMMUNIST MOUTPIECE "O DIARIO" AUG 18 PUBLICIZED A
SEPARATIST-DISTRIBUTED REPORT ON THE AZORES IN AN
EFFORT TO LINK AZOREAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT
MOTA AMARAL, THE SEPARATIST AZOREAN LIBERATION FRONT
(FLA), FRENCH INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AND THE CIA. "O
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"DIARIO" RELIED ON LIES, HALF-TRUTHS AND INNUENDOES TO
IMPLY THAT REPORT WAS PREPARED BY AN OFFICIAL AMERICAN
DEPARTMENT. DENIALS BY MOTA AMARAL AND OTHERS SMEARED
IN THE "O DIARIO" ARTICLE HAVE ONLY BEEN USED TO FUEL THE
INVENTED CONSPIRACY. SO FAR RESPECTABLE PRESS HAS PAID LITTLE
ATTENTION. END SUMMARY.

1. THE "O DIARIO" SMEAR:

COMMUNIST MOUTHPIECE "O DIARIO" AUG 18 HEADLINED ALLEGED "IMPERIALIST PLOT TO SUPPORT AZOREAN SEPARATISM". SUB-TITLE SAID "AMERICAN REPORT REVEALS THAT THE CIA, THE FRENCH SECRET SERVICE, WEST GERMANY, THE ROCKEFELLER EMPIRE, THE PHOENIX FOUNDATION (REFTEL), MOTA AMARAL AND OTHERS ARE INVOLVED IN THE INDEPENDENCE PLOT". THE "O DIARIO" ACCOUNT IS BASED ON AN OTHERWISE UNIDENTIFIED FOUR-PAGE DOCUMENT ENTITLED "POLITICAL BACKGROUND ON THE AZORES ISLANDS" WHICH WAS RECEIVED IN THE MAIL ALONG WITH OTHER FLA SEPARATIST LITERATURE BY OUR EMBASSY AND MANY NEWS-PAPERS IN LISBON. DOCUMENT IS WRITTEN IN ENGLISH BY A NON-NATIVE SPEAKER. "O DIARIO" ARTICLE CLAIMED THE DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED FOR THE INTERNAL USE OF "AN AMERICAN DEPARTMENT ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC VALUE OF THE AZORES." "O DIARIO" QUOTED SELECTIVELY FROM THE 4 PAGE DOCUMENT TO REPORT AN ALLEGED SEPT. 1975 MEETING IN PARIS BETWEEN THE FLA, MOTA AMARAL, THE CIA, AND FRENCH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. THE PAPER ALSO REPORTED PHOENIX FOUNDATIONS FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT, AND ALLEGED SHIFTS IN STATE DEPARTMENT POLICY FROM HOSTILITY TO NEUTRALITY TO HOSTILITY TOWARD THE AZOREAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT.

2. MOTA AMARAL DENIAL:

MOTA AMARAL LABELED THE "O DIARIO" STORY AS FULL OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INACCURACIES AND HALF-TRUTHS, BUT STATED THERE WERE MANY MEETINGS WITH VARIOUS FORCES IN THE DARK DAYS OF 1975. "O DIARIO" HAS FOLLOWED UP ITS ORIGINAL "EXPOSE" WITH EDITORIALS AND ADDITIONAL ARTICLES SEEKING TO LINK MOTA AMARAL, THE FLA, THE PHOENIX FOUNDATION, AND THE CIA. "O DIARIO" ON AUG 21 DID, HOWEVER, TONE DOWN CLAIMS OF USG AUTHORSHIP OF THE REPORT, CLAIMING ONLY THAT IT WAS PREPARED BY "AN IMPERIALIST ORGANIZATION UNDER AMERICAN HEGEMONY."

3. COMMENT:

THE "O DIARIO" STORY PROBABLY IS ABLE TO IMPRESS ITS LEADERSHIP -- WHICH IS CONSIDERABLE-- BUT NOT MANY OTHERS. NON-COMMUNIST PAPERS HAVE NOT RUN WITH THE TALE, AND WE HAVE HAD ONLY ONE PRESS QUERY TO DATED. WE TOLD CONSERVATIVE "JORNAL NOVO" CORRESPONDENT THAT DOCUMENT WAS NOT FROM USG. WE DO NOT INTEND TO MAKE A FORMAL DENIAL SINCE THIS WOULD GIVE THE REPORT UNMERITED ATTENTION. THIS CABLE AND ACCOMPANYING AIRGRAM ARE FOR YOUR BACKGROUND IN CASE OF ECHOES IN WASHINGTON.

ROWELL

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Message Attributes

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